



BLT 1/2 22d MEU (SOC)

Timber Wolf News

Volume 1, Issue 2

November 4 2005

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Coming Events:

- Thanksgiving
Potluck 19 Nov. @
USO 11AM-1PM
- Christmas Party
10 Dec. 9AM-12PM
@ Field House
- KV Meeting @ BN
Conference Room
6PM on Dec. 13

CO Greetings. Best wishes to the families and friends of Battalion Landing Team 1/2.

A reminder that should you need assistance regarding family readiness matter, please call the Family Readiness Staff Non-commissioned Officer, Staff Sergeant Henthorn at 910-451-3288. If there is an emergency, or situation that requires your timely contact with a member of BLT, please contact your local Red Cross Office, or call the BLT 1/2 Officer of the Day (OOD) at 910-451-1519.

Staying in Touch ... As outlined on the 22 MEU Homepage, official and factual information regarding 22nd MEU and BLT 1/2 movements, activities and operations will come from the Commanding Officer of the 22nd Marine Expeditionary Unit and will be passed to the BLT for further dissemination. Families and friends are advised to rely on this website and the 1-800 Information Hotlines for the most accurate information on 22 MEU and BLT 1/2.

Special Operations Capable ... In the event you missed the last update, it is my pleasure once again to announce that Battalion Landing Team 1/2 as a major subordinate element of 22nd Marine Expeditionary Unit completed its final training milestone in the pre-deployment training schedule. Concluded on the 4th of October, the Special Operations Certification Exercise, or CERTEX saw the BLT embarked aboard US Navy amphibious shipping known as the NASSAU Strike Group. While embarked and

also operating from a forward operating base aboard Camp Lejeune, BLT 1/2 planned, executed and was evaluated as an element of 22nd MEU on a variety of missions to assess its readiness to be a "forward deployed force in readiness" capable of operating anywhere in the world. The CERTEX proved to be a challenging and rewarding exercise and culminated with the 22nd MEU receiving formal certification as a "Special Operations Capable" Marine Expeditionary Unit. All Marines and Sailors of the BLT should be very proud of their accomplishments and have my most professional "thanks" for a job well done. In recognizing this significant accomplishment, I want to also extend my warmest "thank you" to our families and friends that provided tremendous support to their Marine or Sailor and the BLT as a whole throughout a very ambitious pre-deployment training schedule. Your support and sacrifice has certainly not gone unnoticed, and your contributions to a very successful "work up" are greatly appreciated.

Countdown to Deployment ... We have completed a well-deserved leave period and are now fully engaged in final preparations for our scheduled deployment. Our focus is to execute a safe and efficient on-load of amphibious ships over the next several days and then move forward to serve our nation. We do so knowing that



the best wishes, prayers and the love and support of our families and friends are with Battalion Landing Team 1/2. I look forward to sharing with you over the next several months the experiences and achievements of this superb Battalion Landing Team.

**...HERE'S HEALTH TO YOU
AND TO OUR CORPS WHICH
WE ARE PROUD TO SERVE...**

Sincerely,
LiCol "Drew" Smith
Commanding Officer
Battalion Landing Team 1/2

ASSISTANT COMMANDANT OF THE MARINE CORPS CHANGE

AS WE CHANGE ASSISTANT COMMANDANTS AND GENERAL "SPIDER" NYLAND LEAVES ACTIVE DUTY, IT IS APPROPRIATE THAT WE PAUSE AND CELEBRATE HIS TREMENDOUS CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR CORPS OVER HIS 37 YEARS OF ACTIVE SERVICE. GENERAL NYLAND FLEW 122 COMBAT MISSIONS IN VIETNAM; COMMANDED AVIATION UNITS AT THE SQUADRON, GROUP, AND WING LEVELS, SERVED MULTIPLE TOURS ON THE JOINT STAFF AND SERVED THE CORPS AS DEPUTY COMMANDANT FOR PROGRAMS & RESOURCES AND AVIATION. AS ASSISTANT COMMANDANT, HIS LEADERSHIP, WISDOM, AND COMMON SENSE SERVED THE CORPS WELL DURING ONE OF THE MOST CHALLENGING PERIODS IN OUR HISTORY. MARINE UNITS ENGAGED IN THE GLOBAL WAR ON TERRORISM AND NUMEROUS WORLDWIDE CRISES RECEIVED VASTLY IMPROVED TRAINING, EQUIPMENT, AND SUPPORT DUE TO HIS CEASELESS EFFORTS. HIS SUPPORT TO WOUNDED MARINES AND THEIR FAMILIES, PARTICULARLY IN EXPANDING THE MARINE FOR LIFE PROGRAM, EPITOMIZED THE CARING AND THOUGHTFUL LEADERSHIP THAT DISTINGUISHED HIS ENTIRE CAREER. THROUGHOUT IT ALL, HIS WIFE, BRENDA, HAS BEEN A STEADFAST PARTNER, CONTRIBUTING HER TIME, KNOWLEDGE, CARING, AND COMPASSION ON BEHALF OF OUR CORPS AND THE MARINE FAMILY. THIS EXCEPTIONAL COUPLE WILL BE MISSED.

2. GENERAL BOB MAGNUS HAS ASSUMED DUTIES AS OUR NEW ASSISTANT COMMANDANT. HE HAS SERVED IN VARIOUS COMMAND AND STAFF BILLETTS BOTH WITHIN OUR CORPS AND IN THE JOINT COMMUNITY, AND MOST RECENTLY HAS SERVED AS DEPUTY COMMANDANT FOR PROGRAMS AND RESOURCES. HIS TREMENDOUS EXPERIENCE HAS PREPARED HIM WELL FOR HIS NEW DUTIES. HIS WIFE, ROSE, BRINGS HER OWN CONSIDERABLE TALENTS AS AN ENERGETIC AND DEDICATED ADVOCATE FOR OUR MARINE FAMILIES. THE CORPS WILL BENEFIT IMMENSELY FROM THEIR INSIGHT AND JUDGEMENT.

3. SEMPER FIDELIS, M.W. HAGEE, GENERAL, U.S. MARINE CORPS, COMMANDANT OF THE MARINE CORPS.

Ship Mailing Addresses

**THESE ARE NOT
TO BE USED UNTIL
NOV 7**

**U.S.S. Nassau
BLT 1/2, DET (A,
G, WPNS, or
H&S)**

**UNIT 73061
FPO AE 09502-
3061**

**U.S.S. Austin
BLT 1/2, DET (B,
C, or H&S)**

**UNIT 73063
FPO AE 09502-
3063**

**U.S.S. Carter-
Hall
BLT 1/2, DET
WPNS**

**UNIT 73062
FPO AE 09502-
3062**

Alpha Dear Friends and Family of Alpha Company, BLT 1/2

Greetings. As the much-appreciated pre-deployment leave period comes to an end and all of the Alpha family looks ahead to deployment, it is exhausting to think of how far the company has come in the past months. After having returned from deployment just last February, the company has conducted a very ambitious, and at times, physically and mentally challenging training program. From the live fire ranges at Fort A.P. Hill in Virginia, the numerous days on our new home, the U.S.S. Nassau, enjoying midnight rides with our brothers in the helicopter squadron in the MEU, to a couple of blazing

hot nights in Building 132 during the Battalion's SASO field exercise, your Alpha Company Marines have performed superbly. We have seen many old shipmates depart and have welcomed many new Marines into our ranks. We have seen deserving Marines get promoted to higher rank and assume billets of higher responsibility. Most importantly, we have trained in the skills and tactics that will ensure that we are as prepared as we can be for our up-coming deployment. You should feel confident and comfortable that your Marines have trained hard and have proven that they can operate and thrive in numerous

challenging situations. While I know saying "Farewell and I love you" to your Marine will not be easy, know that we will be deploying as a well trained, close knit family that will be able to accomplish whatever mission we are tasked. As always, I wish to thank the families and friends of our men that provide much needed love and support at home while we execute the needs of our Marine Corps and nation. Keep the letters and packages coming and we'll see you next year. Semper Fi.

Roy Ezell
Capt USMC

Bravo

Bravo Company completed CERTEX in early October and contributed to the BLT and the 22nd MEU receiving the Special Operations Qualification. Rest assured that the Marines are well prepared for the road ahead. However, training does not stop and there is plenty to be done aboard ship... and yes, your loved ones will spend plenty of time in the weight room and plenty of time in the

rack. But we will continue to train them to shoot, move and communicate just like they have been doing aboard Camp Lejeune.

Soon we will be at sea and headed for parts east. I am looking forward to getting underway with this fine group of Marines. I know whatever the task may be, Bravo Company will be ready. I thank you for

your continued support; your thoughts and prayers are very much appreciated. God willing, we will all come home safely next year.

Semper Fidelis,

Moni Laube
CO, Bravo Company

Charlie Family and Friends of Charlie Company,

Charlie Company has returned from pre-deployment leave and is ready to get underway. This has been a grueling work up and we greatly appreciate all the support and understanding that the families have shown during this demanding period. I cannot overstate the importance of the Marines and Sailors' ability to focus on training and preparation for deployment and your support and understanding directly effects their capacity to accomplish this. We have covered a wide variety of skill sets during our training to include traditional infantry skills that serve as the bedrock of all military operations, raid missions, and support and stability operations. Deploying with a Marine Expeditionary Unit comes with the unique challenge of having to be prepared to conduct a very large spectrum

of operations from combat to peacekeeping to humanitarian assistance, as opposed to a unit conducting a rotation through Iraq or Afghanistan that can focus on a more specific mission. The demanding pre-deployment training program we executed is what allows us to accomplish this task and serve as a very flexible asset to commanders overseas that must respond to not only the continuing war on terrorism, but also disaster relief such as the recent earthquake in Pakistan or the floods in Louisiana, foreign military training in areas such as the Horn of Africa, or the continuing peacekeeping missions such as in the Balkans. Exactly how commanders will employ us once deployed is still to be determined, but rest assured that we have taken advantage of every opportunity available to prepare them to

accomplish missions and will continue to work to maintain our skills while embarked aboard the USS Austin. Charlie Company is ready to deploy and we look forward to returning home to our friends and families, mission complete, having made you proud.

Semper Fidelis,
Captain Dave Handy, USMC
Commanding Officer, Company C

Weapons

The company successfully completed CER-TEX and our much deserved block leave period. CER-TEX was the MEU's Certification Exercise, which consisted of the BLT executing numerous missions and culminating with the MEU's certification as special operations capable (SOC). The Marines and Sailors of Weapons Company were integral to the BLT's and the MEU's success. The dedica-

tion, professionalism, and preparedness of your Marines and sailors was evident.

I hope that everyone enjoyed the leave period. My informal feed back from the company indicates that it was a rewarding period with family and friends. I enjoyed the time with my family and am glad to hear everyone else did as well.

Our success during this very arduous pre-deployment period was not

due exclusively to the hard work and sacrifice of your Marines and Sailors. Your love and support was key. We recognize that the sacrifices made are not simply made by us active duty members, but also by our families. We thank you for your support.

Capt. Ray Spaulding



PHONE NUMBERS:
910-450-1671/1668

Children Youth & Sports

<http://www.mccslejeune.com/CYT.html>

Golf Golf Battery Wives,

As I am sure you all are aware we will be boarding the USS Nassau and heading out on our deployment in a few short days. I hope that each of you had a chance to spend some time with your Marine or sailor while we were all on a well-deserved leave period. The Marines and sailors of Golf have worked and trained hard to get ready for this deployment and as their Commanding Officer I couldn't be more proud of each and every one of them. I have no doubt that wherever we go or whatever we do, Golf Battery is ready to face the challenge.

As soon as we get aboard ship every Marine and Sailor will have an established e-mail address and will have an

opportunity to email routinely while aboard ship. I can't guarantee how often because we are limited on the number of available computers and sometimes the connectivity may not be so great, but everyone will have the ability to email.

Every married Marine and sailor in the Battery has been given a deployment handbook from the Battery. This handbook has a lot of good information with contact numbers and recommendations in it. That is meant to come home and I hope that each of you has received it. If you haven't please contact your Key Volunteer so they can get a copy to you. Speaking of KV's, please keep in touch with them. They will do everything they can to keep you informed. The

KV's will not spread rumors or give you false or unverified information so what you hear from them will be official information passed along from the BLT or MEU.

Thanks again for everything that you do to keep us all mission focused and ready for whatever tasks we have before us in the future. If there is ever anything that you need from me or any Marine in my chain of command do not hesitate to ask because taking care of our Marines/Sailors and their families is a large part of what we are here for.

Take care and Semper Fidelis,
Captain "Skip" Barth
Commanding Officer
Golf Battery, BLT 1/2

H&S To the families of H&S company,

As we depart on this much anticipated deployment, we are happy to inform you that we are trained, motivated and eagerly looking forward to any challenges that lay ahead of us. Throughout the MEU(SOC) work up we have honed our skills to a razor sharp edge and we are more then prepared for any eventuality that may occur. Aboard ship we will continue to refine and enhance

the training that will prepare us for operations at our final destination. Our focus of effort will be shooting, 1st aid, communications and reporting. We will do our utmost to stay in contact with you throughout the holidays. All of you will be sorely missed, however, we will look forward to our homecoming after this deployment. Thank you for your support and prayers, they have

made this work up for the coming deployment possible. We could not have done it without the families as our cornerstone of support.

Semper Fi,
Capt Dane Hanson

Thanksgiving

Potluck

Come join us at the Jacksonville USO on 19 November 2005 for a Thanksgiving dinner hosted by the 22d MEU. The dinner will be from 11:00 AM-1:00 PM Please RSVP to your KV by 11 November 2005. We hope to See you There.

BLT 1/2 22d MEU (SOC)

BLT Family Readiness Mailing Address

BLT 1/2 22d MEU (SOC)

PSC Box 20094

Camp Lejeune, NC 28542-0094

Phone: 910-451-3288

Cell: 910-554-9130

Fax: 910-451-1828

Email: henthorncl@2mardiv.usmc.mil



910-451-1299

We're on the web
[www.usmc.mil/22ndmeu/
BLT_1-2.htm](http://www.usmc.mil/22ndmeu/BLT_1-2.htm)

800 #
1-800-230-8762
Ext. 11

NOV 8	Regular Session	9:00AM - 5:00PM
DEC 1	Regular Session	9:00AM - 5:00PM
DEC 6-7	2-Day Session	9:00AM - 1:00PM
JAN 10-11	2-Day Session	9:00AM - 1:00PM
JAN 31-FEB 1	2-Day Session	9:00AM - 1:00PM
FEB 7	Regular Session	9:00AM - 5:00PM

UPDATED JULY 2005

How to become a KV

Key Volunteer Training (There are two Options)

- Option #1: KV training by Marine Corps Family Team Building.
 - Call 451-0176 for reservations
 - Call 451-2672 for childcare (weekday classes)
- Option #2: Online KV training
 - <https://www.marinenet.usmc.mil/portal/>

Attend 1st Bn 2nd Marines monthly KV meeting.

- The next meeting is: _____
- Meetings are held in the Bn conference room located on the 2nd deck of building 217.

Bring your KV certificate to the KV meeting.

If you have any questions please contact the following:
SSgt Henthorn 451-3288



2005

Date	Modules	Date	Modules
4 Jun 05	1-5	5 Jul 05	1-2
6 Aug 05	1-5	12 Jul 05	3-5
8 Oct 05	1-5	6 Sep 05	1-2
		13 Sep 05	3-5
		1 Nov 05	1-2
		8 Nov 05	3-5

Basic Key Volunteer Training

Single Day (Modules 1-5) Training hours are 0800-1430*

2 Session Training Days Training hours for modules 1-2 are 0900-1300
Training hours for modules 3-5 are 0900-1300